

Guide to the Reinhart J. “Yup” Krebs photographs, 1939,1940, circa 1960

Summary Information

Collection No.:	MS 2019-023
Title:	Reinhart J. “Yup” Krebs photographs
Inclusive Dates:	1939, 1940, circa 1960
Author:	Carolyn Friedrich and Margaret Dietzer, revised by Nancy Martin
Repository:	Peters Township Public Library 616 East McMurray Road McMurray, PA 15317
Creator:	Reinhart J. “Yup” Krebs
Extent:	1 folder (3 photographs)
Language of materials:	All materials are in English.
Abstract:	Records consist of three black and white photographs, two of which document the site of the Canonsburg Lake dam in North Strabane Township in 1939 and 1940 before it was constructed and one of Yup Krebs posing with a survey theodolite in front of his Peters Township home around 1960.

Biography/History

Reinhart J. “Yup” Krebs (1915-2004) was born in the Pittsburgh neighborhood of Beechview. Krebs was a registered professional engineer who began his engineering career in 1939 working as a surveyor for Benjamin H. Aires. During World War II, Krebs worked as a project manager for the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad supervising strategic construction projects.

After World War II, Krebs formed Krebs Construction Company with his brother Al and friend Eve Laucik and worked as a builder and land developer in the South Hills of Pittsburgh. Krebs is best known for the Krebs Professional Center, a retail and office building located on Route 19 in Peters Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania that his company began constructing in 1950 and which he and his wife Margaret Jane “Janie” Moore Krebs managed until 1998.

As a resident of Peters Township, Krebs was a charter member of the Peters Township Chamber of Commerce and of the Kiwanis Club of Peters Township. In the 1970s, he served on the Peters Township Board of Supervisors for nine years.

Yup acquired his nickname when his younger brother, unable to pronounce “Reinhart” began calling him “Yuppie Cups.”

Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of three black and white photographs.

Two of the photographs were taken by Krebs while working as a surveyor in 1939 and 1940 and document the site of the future Canonsburg Lake dam in North Strabane Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. The artificial lake was created by the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) in 1943 to provide a freshwater reservoir for its Canonsburg Forging Plant during World War II.

The third photograph, taken by Pittsburgh photographer Ben Spiegel, is a photograph of Krebs posing with a survey theodolite in front of his Peters Township home around 1960.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions:

None.

Acquisition Information:

Gift of Kathy Krebs in 2016.

Custodial History:

The photographs passed from Yup to his daughter Kathy Krebs who donated them to the Archives.

Accruals note:

No further accruals are expected.

Preferred Citation:

Peters Township Public Library Archives, MS 2019-023 Reinhard J. “Yup” Krebs photographs

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Carolyn Friedrich and Margaret Dietzer in July 2020 and the description was revised by Nancy Martin in November 2025.

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Sources Consulted:

The following sources were consulted in the creation of this finding aid:

- Obituary for Reinhart J. Krebs by the *Observer-Reporter*, March 17, 2004
- “History of the Lake” on the Save Canonsburg Lake website, accessed November 19, 2025